



# MARSHALL STAR

Serving the Marshall Space Flight Center Community

April 16, 2009

## Marshall celebrates priceless Earth on April 21

By Jessica Wallace

On April 21, the Marshall Space Flight Center will celebrate the 39th anniversary of Earth Day, founded on April 22, 1970.

Marshall's Environmental Excellence Team is sponsoring Earth Day festivities, beginning with opening ceremonies at 10 a.m. in Activities Building 4316. An "environmental expo" will follow from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., with representatives from more than 35 local vendors and organizations who will demonstrate environmental practices and products to Marshall team members.

To mark Earth Day, Huntsville Mayor Tommy Battle and Madison Mayor Paul Finley will plant a tree – donated by Huntsville Wholesale Nursery – on the Activities Building grounds.

"Marshall's involvement with Earth



The winning logo design for this year's Earth Day logo contest was submitted by Mike Montasseri of Marshall's Engineering Directorate.

Day in the past few decades has been a success because of help from team members and the community," said the event's planner, Roger Bunnell,

Marshall's recycling and green purchasing coordinator. "It's the endless dedication that keeps our priceless Earth clean."

That dedication stretches back to the creation of Earth Day, says its founder. Reminiscing about the event before his death in 2005, former U.S. Sen. Gaylord Nelson of Wisconsin said, "Earth Day worked because of the spontaneous response at the grassroots level. We had neither the time nor resources to organize 20 million demonstrators and the thousands of schools and local communities that participated.

"That was the remarkable thing about Earth Day," he said. "It organized itself."

The event's slogan this year is "Just One Drop...PRICELESS." The featured speaker is Kate Stoughton, resource

*See Earth Day on page 6*

## Marshall wins NASA award for best overall small business program

At the NASA Small Business Administrator's Cup Award ceremony are, from left, Byron Butler, director of Marshall's Office of Procurement; David Brock, small business specialist in the Office of Procurement; Marshall Center Acting Director Robert Lightfoot; Glenn Delgado, assistant administrator for NASA's Small Business Programs; and NASA Associate Deputy Administrator Charles Scales.



Marshall Space Flight Center's small business program has been recognized by NASA as the agency's best overall – winning the center the Small Business Administrator's Cup Award for fiscal year 2008.

NASA Associate Deputy Administrator Charles Scales and Glenn Delgado, assistant administrator for NASA's Small Business Programs, presented the cup to Marshall Center Acting Director Robert Lightfoot in a

*See Award on page 2*

## ***Student rocketeers to show off, launch their creations April 16-19***

Marshall Space Flight Center team members will have the opportunity to inspect the work of the next generation of propulsion engineers and payload scientists April 16-19 – the culmination of the 2009 Student Launch Initiative and University Student Launch Initiative.

The annual event challenges college and university teams to design and build reusable rockets that can carry working science payloads 1 mile high and return them safely to Earth.

Thirty-three teams from 17 states will gather for the event. They'll present their work April 16 at a Rocket Fair from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Marshall's Activities Building 4316. Free pizza will

be available to the first 1,000 visitors.

College and university teams will launch their rockets April 18. High school teams will launch April 19. Both day-long events will be at Bragg Farms in Toney, Ala., about 20 miles north of Huntsville, and are open to the public.

The Marshall Center will provide real-time Twitter coverage of launch-day activities. Log on to [http://twitter.com/SLI\\_1MILEHIGH](http://twitter.com/SLI_1MILEHIGH) and click "Follow" to keep up with the action.

The Student Launch Initiative and University Student Launch Initiative are managed by the Marshall Center's Academic Affairs Office and sponsored by



Student rocketeers from Utah State University in Logan track their descending vehicle at the 2008 University Student Launch Initiative, organized by the Marshall Center.

the Exploration Systems Mission Directorate at NASA Headquarters in Washington. ATK Launch Systems of Huntsville is providing corporate sponsorship.

For more information, contact Julie Clift, an education specialist in the Academic Affairs Office, at 961-1334 or [julie.d.clift@nasa.gov](mailto:julie.d.clift@nasa.gov).

## ***Marshall Association accepting applications for college scholarships***

The Marshall Association is taking applications for two college scholarships. One will be awarded to a student pursuing a technical degree in a field such as science, engineering or mathematics, and the second will be presented to a

student majoring in a non-technical field. This year's scholarships will be awarded in July.

Applicants must be the dependent of a 2009 Marshall Association member and must be entering their freshman year of college this fall. The applications are due

by 4 p.m. May 15.

Scholarship eligibility requirements and guidelines for application submission are available on Inside Marshall or go to [http://inside.msfc.nasa.gov/announcements/2009\\_ma-scholarship-call.html](http://inside.msfc.nasa.gov/announcements/2009_ma-scholarship-call.html).

## **Awards** *Continued from page 1*

ceremony April 7.

The annual award honors significant contributions made by a NASA center's senior management, program and technical personnel, and procurement office to NASA's Small Business Program. Marshall's final Small Business Program Report for fiscal year 2008 – part of the metrics submitted by each NASA center to measure and document the success of the agency's Small Business Program

– demonstrated that Marshall met or exceeded nearly all of its small business goals for the year.

"Receiving this award was a tremendous day for Marshall's Small Business Program," said David Brock, small business specialist in the Marshall Center's Office of Procurement, who spoke at the ceremony. "This honor exemplifies Marshall management's commitment in using small businesses and acquisitions.

"Success does not lie in the destination, but rather in the journey we take each day to achieve that success," he added. "Today's event was an incredible accomplishment. But for it to be significant, we must use today as a stepping stone for growing the program in the future, and building a brighter tomorrow."

For information on the 2008 NASA Small Business Administrator's Cup Award, visit <http://www.osbp.nasa.gov>.



# An 'off-world racing' pictorial: NASA's 16th annual Great Moonbuggy Race



Erie High School Team II from in Erie, Kan., kicks off NASA's 16th annual Great Moonbuggy Race. Sixty-nine high school, college and university teams took off-road racing to an "off-world" extreme April 3-4 at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center in Huntsville. Erie Team II tied for first place with a Huntsville Center for Technology team. Both finished the event in 3:25.

The Lima Senior High School team from Lima, Ohio, hurries to right their buggy and get back on the track. The race course, dotted with gravel pits, sand traps and other obstacles, kept the pit area busy throughout the weekend. Racers wear seatbelts, helmets, gloves and pads to protect them from serious injury.



The Rochester Institute of Technology team from Rochester, N.Y., races toward a final time of 3:30 to win the college division, reclaiming the title won by the school in 2007. Winning teams post the fastest vehicle assembly and race times in their divisions and receive the fewest penalties during their runs.

Never underestimate the newcomers! The team from Arab High School in Arab, Ala., rolls into second place in their division with a final time of 4:01. More than a quarter of the teams this year were new to the event. The race was founded to honor the work of Marshall Center engineers who designed and built the original lunar rovers used in the Apollo moon missions in the early 1970s.





Punjab Engineering College racers from Chandigarh, India, bounce over an obstacle. A highlight of the race was the participation by 12 international teams, including longtime competitors from Canada and Germany and new teams from India and Romania.



Despite this rollover, Pana High School racers from Pana, Ill., posted the fifth fastest time in the high school division. And thanks to their protective helmets and gloves, neither student was injured. "I'm glad I was back at the starting line and didn't see that!" wrote team advisor Steve Bonser on the race's Facebook page. To learn more, visit Facebook and search for "Moonbuggy Race."

Marshall university affairs officer Dr. Frank Six addresses a crowd of racers, chaperones and supporters at the awards ceremony April 4 at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center. In her final blog entry on NASA's "Buggy Blog" (<http://blogs.nasa.gov/cm/blog/moonbuggy>), Team Germany racer Anne Geyer wrote of Six's speech: "He speaks of dreams that we can make become true, of an enthusiasm that was never as great as it is today, and of worlds waiting to be discovered by us. At the foundation of all this is the moonbuggy race."



Gregory Anderson, left, general manager of ATK Launch Systems of Huntsville, and Durlean Bradford, right, a Marshall education specialist in the Academic Affairs Office, present the race's first-place award to the Huntsville Center for Technology Team II, which tied with Erie High School. Team advisor Tim White, second from left, the school's precision machine technology teacher, led the school's teams to second and third place in 2008.

# Volunteers needed for Water Recovery System effort

Marshall Space Flight Center civil service volunteers are needed to support testing of the Exploration Life Support systems' Water Recovery System.

Beginning April 20 and continuing through the summer, the Life Support group will conduct a test of distillation systems that could become part of a water recycling system that astronauts may use on future lunar habitats.

Volunteers are asked to exercise for an hour – at their own pace – in a chamber specially designed to collect sweat. Equipment in the room includes treadmills, an elliptical machine, a stair stepper and a stationary bicycle. Participation

in the generation of hygiene wastewater is also voluntary.

Volunteers need to obtain approval from their supervisors, attend an orientation and be available during normal work hours. The number of times a volunteer participates in test activities each week will be based on their availability as coordinated with their supervisor. A charge code will be provided for up to two hours a day. All volunteers will be approved by a Marshall Medical Center physician based on their most recent annual physical exam and a treadmill test.

For more information or to volunteer, contact Layne Carter at 544-7082 or [layne.carter@nasa.gov](mailto:layne.carter@nasa.gov).

## Marshall team invited to Employee Appreciation Social on April 20

The Marshall Space Flight Center team is invited to an Employee Appreciation Social at 2:30 p.m., April 20, at Activities Building 4316. Entertainment will be the Marshall "Friars' Club" Roast of former Marshall Center Director David King.

Refreshments will be provided by the Marshall Exchange.

Transportation will be available to and from the event. Buses will begin running at 2 p.m. and run in continuous loops to 4316 until 4:30 p.m.

To view the bus schedule, visit [http://inside.msfc.nasa.gov/announcements/dave-king\\_roast.html](http://inside.msfc.nasa.gov/announcements/dave-king_roast.html).

## Classified Ads

To submit a classified ad to the Marshall Star, go to Inside Marshall, to "Employee Resources," and click on "Employee Ads — Submit Ad." Ads are limited to 15 words, including contact numbers. No sales pitches. Deadline for the next issue, April 23, is 4:30 p.m. Thursday, April 16.

### Miscellaneous

Prom dresses, burnt orange, crimson, aqua, sea foam green, sizes 00 to 7. 508-0509

Bowflex Xtreme2 Home Gym, disassembled, ready for pickup, \$1,000. 698-8834

Two-carat Circle Journey Pendant with chain, white gold, \$1,200. 755-1580

Lily Flagg Pool membership, price includes 2009 dues, \$800. 882-8973

Bowflex Blaze Home Gym, \$490 obo. 270-0091

31"x 64" 3/8" thick glass top, 1/2" plywood base, \$30 for both. 655-6348

Eames-era five-piece bedroom suite, \$250 obo; Samsonite 26" rolling suitcases, \$50 for pair. 348-1878

Frontier 1080 wheel rake; left-handed golf clubs, \$100. 508-6840

Matching leather couches, maroon, \$375 each or \$750 for both. 281-957-5295

Kenmore gas stove, white, gray burners, \$250 obo. 606-1717

Full-size pickup truck tool box, \$20. 881-5642

Lined drapes, dark green, five pairs, 24" panel x 84" long, \$75. 520-7797

Sun Bicycles EZ-1 recumbent bike, blue, 21 speeds, \$300. 882-1566

Boxer, 2 years old, flashy brindle, spayed female, friendly, good with kids, \$100. 420-8101

Paradigm stereo speakers, Studio 20 Reference series, built-in amplifiers, gamers or audiophiles, \$725. 352-514-8405

Dell photo printer 720, \$10. 464-9408

Digital photo frame, 3.5 inches, portable, \$17; D-Link switch, \$12. 417-4828

10' church pew, \$400 obo. 509-2536

ShorePort floating Jet Ski lift, slurry pole attachments, \$750. 714-4651

Broyhill white kitchen hutch, glass sides/doors/shelves, \$325; five-piece white indoor wicker set, \$350. 975-1667

Nvidia e-GeForce 6200, graphics card, 256MB, AGP, dual display, TV-out, DVI, VGA, \$25. 683-7683

### Vehicles

2005 Ford Five Hundred Limited, AWD, leather, moon roof, fully loaded, 44k miles, \$12,500. 975-1667

2005 Mini Cooper Convertible, red, automatic, sport package, 31k miles, \$18,900. 837-8946

2004 Honda Ranger ATV, yellow, 4WD, automatic, electric shift, 145 hours, 640 miles, \$3,400. 509-2536

2002 Fifth Wheel, slide out, sleeps eight, many amenities, \$13,990. 721-1260

2002 Chevy Silverado 1500, 2WD, regular cab, 4.8ltr-V8, auto, CD/radio, power locks, towing package, \$5,885. 468-4945

2001 Honda Odyssey EX, silver, 164k miles. 880-2290

Three standup Jet Skis, two run, two-Ski trailer, tools, spare parts, \$600. 698-5127

1998 Stingray RS180 bowrider, trailer, New 140HP engine,

many extras, \$10,500. 640-6427

1997 Lincoln Towncar, signature edition, loaded, \$3,800. 586-7424 or 744-7015

1996 Mazda Miata M-Edition, new Bilstein shocks/ timing belt/water pump, 117k miles, \$5,250. 714-1941

### Wanted

Jones Valley Pool membership. 882-6973

Patio set; small rototiller, both in good condition. 508-5250

Washer and dryer, large capacity preferred, but not mandatory. 503-6080

Dryer, large capacity preferred. 468-4406

Swing set, will take a part, pick up, haul. 505-2830

Carpentry, trim, paint, tile, floors, siding, pressure wash. 558-3793

Monkey grass for edging, will dig and pick up. 508-0509

### Free

Raked pine straw, you bag/haul. 881-5642

## Shuttle Buddies to meet April 27

The Shuttle Buddies will meet at 8:30 a.m. April 27 at Mullins Restaurant on Andrew Jackson Way. For more information, call Deemer Self at 881-7757.



# 'Focus on Marshall': A look at testing NASA's newest space telescope, latest International Space Station hardware

By Lori Meggs

As NASA prepares the next great space observatory, some very important testing is being conducted right here at the Marshall Space Flight Center.

The April episode of the Marshall Center's monthly video program "Focus on Marshall" takes viewers to the X-ray & Cryogenic Facility – the world's largest X-ray telescope test facility and a unique, cryogenic, clean room optical test facility. Cryogenics is the study of the behavior of materials in very low temperatures. The 18 mirror segments

– part of NASA's new James Webb Space Telescope – are undergoing cryogenic testing to prepare them to withstand the extreme temperatures of space. The large, infrared-optimized space telescope – targeted to launch in 2013 – will be the premier observatory of the next decade.

"Focus on Marshall" also will introduce viewers to the Materials Science Research Rack for the International Space Station, developed by Marshall in cooperation with the European Space Agency. The rack is targeted for launch to the space

station in August. Viewers will get an in-depth look at this new hardware that will allow for study of a variety of materials – including metals, ceramics, crystals, and glass – aboard the orbiting laboratory.

"Focus on Marshall" airs on Marshall TV April 20 and 23 at 11 a.m., noon and 1 p.m. It also is available on NASA TV, Inside Marshall and on the NASA Portal.

*Meggs, an AI Signal Research Inc. employee, supports the Office of Strategic Analysis & Communications.*

## Earth Day *Continued from page 1*

efficiency manager program director of Sain Engineering Associates Inc. in Birmingham, Ala. She will discuss the importance of environmentally friendly buildings. She also will hold a class, open to everyone, on Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design at 12:30 p.m. in the Activities Building. The class will be an overview of the design, construction and operation of high-performance green buildings, which are made from recycled or energy- and water-efficient products.

The Environmental Excellence Team will present the Environmental Hero Award to a Marshall team member, recognizing excellence in environmental

stewardship through efforts to preserve and protect the environment.

Winners of the Earth Day photo and logo contests also will be presented with certificates. This year's logo winner is Mike Montasseri, an engineering technician in the Engineering Directorate. Montasseri's logo was selected in a vote by team members for use in Earth Day promotional materials. The photo winners will be announced at the event. The two best photos, taken on Marshall property, will be displayed in a slide



show during the festivities.

Complimentary hot dogs, soft drinks and ice cream will be available during the event, along with door prizes and giveaways for attendees. Recycling stations will be set up at the expo for cell phones and eyeglasses.

For more information of the day's events, contact Bunnell at 544-0608 or [roger.e.bunnell@nasa.gov](mailto:roger.e.bunnell@nasa.gov).

*Wallace, an AI Signal Research Inc. employee and the Marshall Star editor, supports the Office of Strategic Analysis & Communications.*

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